

**Health Services**

Cap. 44.

**HEALTH SERVICES (EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS) REGULATIONS, 1984**

S.I.  
1985/6.  
S.I.  
1986/130.

**Authority:** These regulations were made on 7th December 1984 by the Minister under section 10 of the *Health Services Act*.

**Commencement:** 1st February, 1985.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the *Health Services (Embalmers and Funeral Directors) Regulations, 1984*. Citation.

2. In these regulations

Inter-  
pretation.

“burial” includes burial at sea and of cremated human remains;

“embalmer” means a person licensed as an embalmer under these regulations;

“embalming” means the preserving of a dead human body by the introduction of chemical substances into that body by vascular or hypodermic injection or by direct application into the organs or cavities of that body;

“funeral directing” means the furnishing of funeral supplies and services to the public and includes

(i) the provision and maintenance of a funeral establishment so located, constructed and equipped as to permit the decent and sanitary handling of dead human bodies,

(ii) the handling, transportation, preparation, embalming or encasing of a dead human body for burial or other disposal,

(iii) the direction and supervision of funerals, and

(iv) the burial of dead human bodies or their cremated remains;

“funeral director” means a person licensed as a funeral director under these regulations;

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1986/130. "funeral establishment" means premises licensed as such under regulation 7.

Funeral directing.  
S.I.  
1986/130. 3. Subject to regulation 4, no person shall engage in the business of funeral directing unless

- (a) he applies for and obtains a funeral director's licence; and
- (b) he owns, operates or is employed at a funeral establishment.

Funeral director's licence.  
S.I.  
1986/130. 4. (1) A person who applies for a funeral director's licence under regulation 3 may be granted the licence if he is aged 18 years or over, and

- (a) prior to the coming into operation of these regulations, was engaged in the business of funeral directing for a period of not less than 3 years; or
- (b) has been engaged in the business of funeral directing under the direct supervision of a licensed funeral director for not less than 2 years.

(2) An application for a licence referred to in paragraph (1) must be in writing and in such form as the Minister approves.

Embalmer's licence.  
S.I.  
1986/130. 5. (1) No person shall perform the service of embalming without obtaining a licence to do so.

(2) A person who applies for a licence under paragraph (1) may be granted the licence if he is aged 18 years or over, and

- (a) holds a qualification in embalming from an institution of embalming approved by the Chief Medical Officer; or
- (b) prior to the coming into operation of these regulations,
  - (i) was engaged in the practice of embalming for a period of not less than 5 years, or
  - (ii) has worked under the direct supervision of an approved embalmer for not less than 3 years.

(3) An application for a licence referred to in paragraph (1) must be in writing and in such form as the Minister approves.

6. (1) Any owner, operator or person in charge of a funeral establishment shall within 30 days of the coming into force of these regulations, apply to the Minister for a licence to operate that establishment.

Existing  
funeral  
establish-  
ments.  
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(2) An application for a licence under paragraph (1) must be in writing and in such form as the Minister approves.

(3) No licence shall be granted under this regulation unless the Minister is satisfied that the applicant has complied with regulation 7 or has made proper arrangements to comply with that regulation.

(4) A licence granted under this regulation is subject to any condition included in the licence.

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7. (1) No person shall operate a funeral establishment unless

Licence  
for funeral  
establish-  
ments.

(a) he applies for and obtains a licence from the Minister to do so; and

(b) satisfies the requirements specified in regulation 8.

(2) No licence shall be granted under paragraph (1) (a) unless

(a) the establishment contains or has access to a preparation room at least 3.5 metres wide by 4 metres long where the preparation of human bodies for burial or other disposal is carried on;

(b) the walls of the establishment to a height of 1.5 metres, and the floor of the preparation rooms of that establishment are finished with an easily cleaned impervious material approved by the Chief Medical Officer;

(c) every preparation room in the establishment is provided with receptacles for refuse, bandages, cotton and other waste material and supplies; and all such refuse, bandages, cotton and other waste material and supplies are destroyed by incineration at the conclusion of each preparation;

(d) the preparation room to which sub-paragraph (c) refers is so ventilated that no deleterious odour is allowed to remain therein and the odours therefrom are not permitted to enter any other part of the premises or any adjoining premises;

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- (e) every preparation room to which sub-paragraph (c) refers is provided with an adequate supply of running water, a sink and wash basin of suitable size and sufficient disinfectant, towels, liquid soap or other similar materials for use by persons engaged in the preparation of human bodies; and all liquid waste is disposed of in a manner approved by the Chief Medical Officer; and
- (f) in the case of embalming, such supply of instruments and other equipment are provided to the satisfaction of the Chief Medical Officer.

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(3) An application for a licence referred to in paragraph (1) must be in writing and in such form as the Minister approves.

Require-  
ments for  
the opera-  
tion of a  
funeral  
establish-  
ment.

8. (1) No person shall operate a funeral establishment unless

- (a) the walls, floors, ceilings, doors, windows, woodwork and all other parts of the structure of the establishment are kept clean and in good repair;
- (b) adequate measures are adopted to prevent the entry of rodents and insects into the establishment and to maintain the establishment free from these pests;
- (c) all rooms and passage-ways of the establishment are suitably lighted; and
- (d) the forecourt, yard or other open space within the curtilage of the premises is kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

(2) Every person, while engaged in preparing a dead human body, in a funeral establishment shall wear clean water-proof protective clothing extending from the neck to below the knees and impervious rubber gloves.

(3) The protective clothing referred to in paragraph (1) must not be worn again before being laundered.

(4) All instruments and appliances used in the preparation of a dead human body in a funeral establishment must be thoroughly cleaned and sterilized after being used.

Funeral  
establish-  
ments'  
register.

9. (1) An owner or operator of a funeral establishment shall, in respect of the services provided at that establish-

ment, keep a register respecting the final disposition of all bodies prepared at the establishment.

(2) A register referred to in paragraph (1) shall contain a statement as to whether or not the body was embalmed and a statement of

- (a) the name, sex, age and last address of the deceased;
- (b) the date of death;
- (c) the cause of death;
- (d) the date, place and method of final disposal of the body;
- (e) the name of the person who prepared the body; and
- (f) the name of the person who embalmed the body.

(3) Any register kept in accordance with paragraph (1) shall be retained for a period of not less than 5 years from the date of final disposal of any body to which that register relates.

(4) An owner or operator of a funeral establishment shall notify the Minister in writing of any change respecting the licensed persons employed by him.

10. The Chief Medical Officer, a Medical Officer of Health or Public Health Inspector may at any reasonable time enter and inspect a funeral establishment; and no person shall prevent him from so doing or obstruct him in the execution of his duties under these regulations.

Entry and inspection of funeral establishment.

11. (1) An owner or operator of a funeral establishment shall, at the request of the Chief Medical Officer, a Medical Officer of Health or a Public Health Inspector, produce for inspection the register referred to in regulation 9 or any other record kept in accordance with these regulations.

Production of register of funeral establishment.

(2) A Medical Officer of Health or a Public Health Inspector may at any time during which a funeral establishment is open to business, enter and inspect the premises of that establishment for the purpose of ascertaining whether there has been any contravention of these regulations in connection with those premises.

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Cessation of operation of funeral establishment.

12. (1) The holder of a licence who ceases to operate an establishment to which that licence relates shall, within 7 days of so ceasing, give notice in writing of the cessation to the Minister and at the same time submit the licence for cancellation.

(2) Where a licence is suspended or cancelled, the person to whom the licence was granted shall submit the licence to the Minister.

(3) Where a person, being the holder of a licence under these regulations dies, his personal representative shall give notice of the death in writing to the Minister.

Expiration, cancellation or suspension of licence.

13. (1) Unless previously suspended or cancelled, under paragraph (2), a licence expires on 31st December in the year in which it is issued and is renewable within 1 month thereafter.

(2) The Minister may cancel or suspend a licence granted in accordance with these regulations where the holder of the licence:

- (a) has not complied with the requirements of a notice served under the Act;
- (b) has not complied with any of the provisions in these regulations;
- (c) has ceased to operate as a funeral director or embalmer as the case may be; or
- (d) has ceased to operate the premises for the purposes for which those premises were licensed.

(3) A licence that has expired and has not been renewed after expiry shall be regarded as having been cancelled under paragraph (2).

Chief Medical Officer's register.

14. The Chief Medical Officer is required to keep or cause to be kept a register of all funeral establishments in respect of which a licence is granted under these regulations and the register shall contain such information as the Minister approves.

Appeal.

15. Any person who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Minister to grant a licence to him under these regulations

may, within 3 months of such refusal, appeal to a Judge in Chambers whose decision is final.

16. Any person who contravenes these regulations is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5,000 or to imprisonment for 12 months or to both, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine of \$200 for each day or part thereof during which the offence continues after a conviction is first obtained.